

Message Text

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PAGE 01 RANGOO 01755 260625Z

10

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /087 W

----- 056812

R 260521Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY RANGOON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9814

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD BM

SUBJ: BURMESE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS

REF: (A) STATE 146681 (B) RANGOON 415

1. BURMA'S PRESSING NEED TO EARN FOREIGN EXCHANGE HAS PRECLUDED ANY ATTEMPTS TO PLACE RESTRICTIONS ON BURMESE EXPORTS DURING PAST FIVE YEARS AND PROBABLY WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT EXPORT TAXES NOTED IN REF B REMAIN IN EFFECT.

2. MACHINERY FOR DE FACTO CONTROLS THROUGH STATE TRADING MONOPOLY EXISTS BUT HAS NOT BEEN UTILIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE OTHER THAN TO ATTEMPT TO WITHHOLD CERTAIN BASIC EXPORTS SUCH AS RICE TO MEET LOCAL DEMAND. ON A FEW RECENT OCCASIONS GUB TRADE MONOPOLY HAS POSTPONED FOREIGN SALES OF TIN AND TUNGSTEN IN HOPES THAT INTERNATIONAL PRICE FOR THESE COMMODITIES WOULD RISE, BUT THIS IS MORE IN NATURE OF NORMAL MARKETING FUNCTION THAN ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS. IT SHOULD BE ADDED THAT EACH TIME IT TRIED THIS PRACTICE MARKET DROPPED FURTHER AND GUB FINALLY SOLD THESE MINERALS FOR LESS THAN IT WOULD HAVE OBTAINED HAD IT NOT WITHHELD THEM.

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3. IN GENERAL LOW OUTPUT AND INEFFICIENCIES IN TRADE MINISTRY AND

GUB CORPORATIONS COMBINE TO HOLD DOWN EXPORTS TO A POINT WHERE
ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS WOULD BE SUPERFLUOUS.
OSBORN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: IMPORT CONTROLS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975RANGOO01755
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750221-0039
From: RANGOON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750613/aaaaalnx.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 146681, 75 RANGOON 415
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUL 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <09 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BURMESE EXPORT RESTRICTIONS
TAGS: ETRD, BM
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006